New Divisional Application Preliminary Amendment

Inventor: Shinichi KIKUCHI et al.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 is pending in the present Application. Claims 2-16 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The Specification has been amended to include cross reference to related Applications. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced via this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this Application is in condition for examination. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/03)

James J. Kulbaski Attorney of Record Registration No. 34,648

Scott A. McKeown Registration No. 42,866

I:\USER\YCSTE\DIV 249811US\DIVAPPL.PRELIMAM.DOC